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13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words)
The Gordon Research Conference on Chronobiology was held from April 30 till May 5 at the hotel II Cioccio, Barga, Italy. Applications for participation were received from 179 scientists, and 144 eventually attended the conference (Appendix A). Of these, 30.9% were graduate students and postdocs, and 41.7% were women. Countries of origin were distributed worldwide: 33% USA and Canada; 50% Western Europe; 4% Eastern Europe; 13% Australia, Asia, South America). Chronobiology is a strongly multidisciplinary field of research. This was reflected in the program of the conference, which spanned the breadth from human circadian rhythms to molecular analysis of rhythms in bacteria. The program (appendix B) listed 25 speakers and 9 discussion leaders. In addition to the oral presentations there were four daily poster sessions, during which a total of 85 posters was presented. These were actively attended and led to vivid information exchange and many new contacts between research groups worldwide.

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1995 Gordon Research Conference on Chronobiology**Final Report**

**Serge Daan, Chair;
Gene D. Block, Vice Chair**

The Gordon Research Conference on Chronobiology was held from April 30 till May 5 at the hotel Il Cioccio, Barga, Italy. Applications for participation were received from 179 scientists, and 144 eventually attended the conference (Appendix A). Of these, 30.9 % were graduate students and postdocs, and 41.7 % were women. Countries of origin were distributed worldwide: 33% USA and Canada; 50% Western Europe; 4% Eastern Europe; 13% Australia, Asia, South America).

Chronobiology is a strongly multidisciplinary field of research. This was reflected in the program of the conference, which spanned the breadth from human circadian rhythms to molecular analysis of rhythms in bacteria. The program (Appendix B) listed 25 speakers and 9 discussion leaders. In addition to the oral presentations there were four daily poster sessions, during which a total of 85 posters was presented. These were actively attended and led to vivid information exchange and many new contacts between research groups worldwide.

Session 1 (Monday morning) was devoted to human circadian rhythms. It addressed new developments in our understanding of the sensitivity of the human circadian system to light, its relationship to subjective time sense, and novel strategies in disentangling the sleep-dependent and circadian phase-dependent components in temporal variability of physiological and psychological parameters. Session 2 concentrated on melatonin, a hormone critically involved in circadian organization of vertebrates. Particularly rapid progress is being made in the molecular identification of melatonin receptors, and three such receptors have now been cloned from different vertebrates.

The second day focussed on behavioural rhythms and their relationship with processes at the level of circadian pacemakers. Excellent presentations were given in the morning session on circadian strategies in energy allocation and on the circadian regulation of sleep. This session in particular served to introduce the audience to important functional aspects of circadian regulation. The evening session concentrated on the association of electrophysiological activity and c-fos in hypothalamic slices containing the circadian pacemaker with patterns of behaviour, and on the effects of photoperiod on pacemaker light sensitivity characteristics.

Sessions 5 and 6 on Wednesday were organized around the physiology of photoreceptors and pacemakers in the circadian system of vertebrates. Rapid progress is being made in the analysis of retinal connections in mammalian pacemakers in the SCN. The search for the photoreceptors involved in entrainment, making use genetic retinal disorders of mice, has shown that neither rods nor cone outer segments are required for entrainment, and that extremely low levels of opsin in as yet unidentified receptors may be sufficient for this function. The analysis of

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circadian rhythm generation in the pacemaker is now making use of different in vitro preparations. In the afternoon session several important breakthroughs were discussed: With SCN preparations maintained alive up to a month with the "roller tube" technique two oscillations were reported to run independently in different neurotransmitters, implying functional multiplicity of rhythm generating mechanisms in the same pacemaker. Single neurons were reported to produce circadian rhythms in electrophysiological characteristics. Synaptic connections are neither required for maintaining these rhythms nor for maintaining synchrony among neurons.

Thursday was dedicated to molecular approaches. Recent developments in work on a new mouse clock mutant were reviewed, and research on a molecular transcription loop model for rhythm generation in *Drosophila* and the mold *Neurospora crassa* discussed. The first evidence for the action of light on feedback inhibition of *frq* transcript levels, as a basis for circadian entrainment was presented. The evening session was dedicated to exciting work on an array of circadian clock mutants in Cyanobacteria, and to molecular analyses of circadian rhythms in plants. Session 9 on Friday morning brought new work on relationships between the circadian system and seasonal regulation with a focus on mammalian study systems.

The format of the Gordon conferences with morning and evening sessions separated by extensive afternoon breaks for informal discussion again proved to be excellently suited for creating an atmosphere of intense exchange and discussion, in addition to the formal discussions following presentations. The centre Il Cioccio, with its secluded setting in the Tuscany hills, contributed greatly to a warm social atmosphere stimulating such exchange. As a new location in the Gordon Conferences system, it was not quite adapted technically to maximal smoothness of operations, and some unpleasant equipment breakdowns may have played a role in the below-average evaluation of this conference in a survey among 65 of the 144 conferees (Appendix C). This evaluation contrasts with an impressive series of strongly positive statements the chair received from attendees after the conference (Appendix D). Clearly, there was a generally very positive attitude and the participants expressed their unanimous vote to continue the alternation of Gordon conferences in Chronobiology between locations in the U.S.A. and Europe.

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Appendix A: List of participants

Appendix B: Program

Appendix C: Poster program

Appendix D: Evaluation

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SPEAKER

24-APR-95
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GORDON RESEARCH CONFERENCES
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION LIST

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IL CIOCCO (SOUTH)

CHRONOBIOLOGY
APR-30-95

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GORDON RESEARCH CONFERENCES

GORDON CONFERENCE ON CHRONOBIOLOGY 1995

IL CIOCCO, BARGA, ITALY,

APRIL 30-MAY 5, 1995

Serge Daan, Chair

Gene D. Block, Vice Chair

Monday, May 1

9:00 - 9:15 Opening

9:15 - 12:30 Morning session: Human circadian rhythms

Discussion leader: Eve van Cauter (Chicago, U.S.)

Speakers:

Sato and Ken-Ichi Honma (Sapporo, Japan): Phase resetting of the human circadian system by light.

Domien Beersma (Groningen, The Netherlands): Forced desynchronization: Body temperature and mood.

Jürgen Aschoff (Freiburg, Germany): Human time perception in temporal isolation: Production and estimation of time intervals.

17.00 - 19:30 Evening session: Season and melatonin

Discussion leader: Josephine Arendt (Guildford, U.K.)

Speakers:

Anna Wirz-Justice (Basel, Switzerland): Effects of light and melatonin on unmasked circadian rhythms in humans

Helena Illnerova (Prague, Czechia): Photoperiod affects the circadian clock and

melatonin rhythm: comparison between rats and humans.

Steven M. Reppert (Boston, USA): Molecular approaches to understanding melatonin actions.

Tuesday, May 2

**9:00 - 12:30 Morning session: Circadian rhythms in behaviour:
Functional approaches**

Discussion leader: Nicholas Mrosovsky (Toronto, Canada)

Speakers:

Thomas Ruf (Marburg, Germany): Daily strategies in temperature regulation and energy allocation in Djungarian hamsters and deer mice.

Irene Tobler (Zuerich, Switzerland): Regulation of sleep in several animal species

Ralph Mistlberger (Burnaby, Canada): The role of the circadian system in memory for time

17:00-19:30 Evening session: Circadian pacemakers and programs

Discussion leader: Benjamin Rusak (Halifax, Canada)

Speakers:

Wolfgang Puchalski (Boulder, USA): Covariation of neuronal activity in the SCN and motor activity in non-entrained Djungarian hamsters

Jeff Elliott (San Diego, USA): Photoperiodic regulation of the circadian phase-shift response in hamsters: Evidence and Inference.

William J. Schwartz (Amherst, USA): What is c-fos doing during photic entrainment ?

Wednesday, May 3

9:00-12:30 Morning session: Circadian photoreception

Discussion leader: Michael Menaker (Charlottesville, USA)

Speakers:

Jacky Falcon (Poitiers, France): The photoreceptor cell from the fish pineal organ as a cellular circadian system.

Mary Pierce (Syracuse, USA): Circadian gene expression in vertebrate photoreceptors.

Russell Foster (Charlottesville, USA): Mammalian photoreceptors in a comparative context

17:30-19:30 Evening session: Physiology of pacemaking neurons

Discussion leader: Gene Block (Charlottesville, USA)

Speakers:

F. Edward Dudek (Fort Collins, USA): Electrophysiological properties of suprachiasmatic nucleus neurons in hypothalamic slices

David Welsh (Harvard, USA): Circadian firing rhythms of individual neurons dissociated from rat suprachiasmatic nucleus

Thursday, May 4

9:00-12:30 Morning session: Molecular approaches: Animals

Discussion leader: Jennifer Loros (Dartmouth, USA)

Speakers:

Paul Hardin (College Station, USA): Per mRNA cycling in *Drosophila*: Tissue distribution and regulation

Martha Hotz Vatterna (Evanston, USA): Clock genetics of the mouse

Paolo Sassone-Corsi (CNRS Strasbourg, France): Rhythmic transcription: CREM as nuclear pacemaker

17:00 Business meeting

17:30-19:30 Evening session: Molecular approaches: Bacteria and Plants

Discussion leader: Till Roenneberg (Munich, Germany)

Speakers:

Carl Johnson (Nashville, USA): Circadian rhythms in Cyanobacteria.

Birgit Piechulla (Goettingen, Germany): Circadian clock controlled Lhc genes from tomato. Analysis of cis- and trans-regulatory elements.

Friday, May 5

9:00-12:00 Morning session: Circannual rhythms and photoperiodism

Discussion leader: Eberhard Gwinner (Andechs, Germany)

Speakers:

Augusto Foa (Ferrara, Italy): Endogenous control of seasonal variations in physiology and behavior of lizards.

Andrew Loudon (London, UK): Photoperiodism, seasonality and the impact of a circadian period mutation.

Fred Karsch (Ann Arbor, USA): Photoperiodic and hormonal cues needed for timing and expression of a circannual reproductive rhythm.

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GORDON CONFERENCE ON CHRONOBIOLOGY 1995
Il Ciocco, Barga, Italy

POSTER SESSION ONE
Monday/Tuesday May 1-2

Presentors with **odd numbered** posters should stand by their posters on Monday 15:00 - 17:00

Presentors with **even numbered** posters should stand by their posters on Tuesday 15:00 - 17:00

- A-1 **Peter Achermann**
"Interaction of homeostatic and circadian processes: a modeling approach"
- A-2 **Ruben D. Baler and David C. Klein**
"Circadian regulation of transcription factor FRA-2 in the rat pineal gland: role for an adrenergic-cyclic amp control mechanism"
- A-3 **Deborah Bell-Pedersen, Jay C. Dunlap and Jennifer J. Loros**
"Identification of ACE (Activating Clock Element), a positive cis-acting DNA element conferring circadian regulation on the transcription of the clock-controlled *cgc-2* (*eas*) gene from *Neurospora crassa*"
- A-4 **Stephany M. Biello and N. Mrosovsky**
"Evidence for phase shifts to a non-photic stimulus in a diurnal species"
- A-5 **Polly Boon**
"Growth and Circadian Rhythm: The effect of different light-dark cycles and food availability on growth efficiency and energy expenditure in Japanese Quail chicks"
- A-6 **Christian Cajochen, Kurt Krasuchi, David Moeri, Carole Hetsch and Anna Wirz-Justice**
"A single administration of melatonin or the melatonin agonist S-20098 lengthens the first REM sleep episode"
- A-7 **David A. Carter**
"AP-1 transcription factor rhythms in the rat pineal"
- A-8 **M.K. Chandrashekar**
"Correlations between sleep and wakefulness in internally synchronized and desynchronized circadian rhythms in humans under prolonged isolation"
- A-9 **G. Coleman, I. Thornton and M. Hay**
"The effects of scheduled stimulation to the MFB on the circadian rhythms in rats"

- A-10 **H.M. Cooper**
"The morphology and distribution of ganglion cells of the retinohypothalamic pathway"
- A-11 **Sue Crosthwaite, Ben Aronson, Jennifer Loros and Jay Dunlap**
"The frequency locus encodes a circadian clock state variable, the level of which is rapidly reset by light"
- A-12 **Drew Dawson, Cameron van den Heuvel and Kathryn Reid**
"Melatonin: A neuroendocrine mediator of age-related sleep disturbance?"
- A-13 **Tom Deboer and Irene Tobler**
"The influence of temperature and photoperiod on sleep and eeg in a photoperiodic animal"
- A-14 **A. Diez-Noguera, T. Cambras, A. Campuzano, J. Vilaplana**
"Parametric effect of light on the circadian system of the rat"
- A-15 **Derk-Jan Dijk, Theresa Shanahan, Jeanne F. Duffy, Joseph M. Ronda and Charles A. Czeisler**
"Variation of low frequency spindle activity during sleep with phase of circadian melatonin rhythm"
- A-16 **Takuro Endo, M. Sasaki, K. Suenaga**
"Bright light effects on circadian rhythms and sleep structure of seasonal affective disorder"
- A-17 **Wolfgang Otto Friesen**
"Computer stimulations of the circadian pacemaker in tau mutant hamsters"
- A-18 **M.C.M. Gordijn, D.G.M. Beersma, H.J. Korte and R.H.v.d Hoofdakker**
"Manipulations of the circadian system system in depressed patients"
- A-19 **Carla B. Green and Joseph C. Besharse**
"Identification of new mRNAs that are regulated by a retinal circadian clock"
- A-20 **Eberhard Gwinner, Michael Zeman and Marcel Klaassen**
"Circadian melatonin rhythms in starling embryos and their synchronization by light"
- A-21 **Eberhard Gwinner, Sibylle Konig and Michal Zeman**
"Circannual cycles in stonechats - effects of pair-bond"
- A-22 **M.E. Harrington**
"Electrophysiological studies of the SCN in vitro"

- A-23 **Michael H. Hastings, P. Sloper, I.L. Schurova, E.L. Bittman and S. McNulty**
"Glutamate and melatonin regulate the phosphorylation of CREB in primary cultures of the suprachiasmatic nucleus"
- A-24 **Michaela Hau and Eberhard Gwinner**
"Continuous melatonin accelerates phase-shifting in sparrows"
- A-25 **Sabine Heigl and Eberhard Gwinner**
"Synchronization of circadian rhythms of house sparrows by oral melatonin"
- A-26 **Charlotte Helfrich-Forster**
"Ontogeny of presumptive circadian pacemaker neurons in the brain of *Drosophila melanogaster*"
- A-27 **A.E. Hiddinga, D.G.M. Beersma, M.C.M. Gordijn and S. Daan**
"Structured forced desynchronization"
- A-28 **Thomas J. Van't Hof and Eberhard Gwinner**
"Development of the melatonin rhythm in Zebra Finches"
- A-29 **Sato Honma, Hiroshi Abe and Ken-ichi Honma**
"A functional analysis of circadian pacemaker of diurnal chipmunks, *Eutamias asiaticus*"
- A-30 **Roelof A. Hut**
"Energy Expenditure during hibernation in the European Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus citellus*)"
- A-31 **Roelof A. Hut**
"Reproductive consequences of arousals in the European Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus citellus*)"
- A-32 **F. Rob Jackson and Laurel M. Newby**
"Lark, an RNA-binding protein that is a molecular element of the circadian clock output pathway regulating the daily timing of eclosion"
- A-33 **Kurt Kraeuchi, Christian Cajochen, David Moorj, Carole Hetsch and Anna Wirz-Justice**
"Evidence for a phase advance in circadian temperature regulation after acute melatonin and a melatonin agonist (S-20098)"
- A-34 **Patricia L. Lakin-Thomas**
"Effects of choline depletion on the circadian oscillator of *Neurospora crassa*"
- A-35 **F. Levi, M. Benavides, P. Depres-Brummer, C. Mormont and Y. Touitou**
"Normal or abnormal circadian rhythms in cancer patients" diagnostic and therapeutic implications"

- A-36 **J.D. Levine, M. Imbalzano, S. Reppert, Ivo Sauman, and F.R. Jackson**
"Period protein from the silkworm *Antheraea pernyi* can function in the circadian timing system of *D. melanogaster*"
- A-37 **Tzy-Mei Lin and How-Jing Lee**
"The expression of locomotor circadian rhythm in female German cockroach, *Blattella germanica* L"
- A-38 **S. Lynn and P.J. DeCoursey**
"Spontaneous changes in circadian pattern of *Peromyscus maniculatis* individuals: potential circadian period mutants"
- A-39 **B. Middleton, B. Stone, and J. Arendt**
"Effects of melatonin on human circadian rhythms in constant dim light"
- A-40 **L. Newby and F. Jackson**
"Circadian clock control of the *Drosophila* adult eclosion rhythm is mediated by RNA-binding proteins"
- A-41 **M. Saboureau, B. Canguilhem, M. Masson-Pevet and P. Pevet**
"Are the annual reproductive and body weight rhythms in the male European hamster (*Cricetus cricetus*) dependent upon a photoperiodically entrained circannual clock?"
- A-42 **Kazuyuki Shinohara**
"Two different circadian oscillators in the rat suprachiasmatic nucleus, *in vitro*"
- A-43 **D.J. Skene, S. Lockley, H. Tabandeh, A. Bird, R. DeFrance, R. and J. Arendt**
"Assessment of performance, mood, activity and melatonin rhythms in visually impaired subjects"

POSTER SESSION TWO
Wednesday/Thursday May 3-4

Presentors with **odd numbered** posters should stand by their posters on Wednesday 15:00 - 17:00

Presentors with **even numbered** posters should stand by their posters on Thursday 15:00 - 17:00

- B-1 **S. Bihler and F. Wollnik**
"Strain-differences in the distribution of arginine-vasopressin- and neuropeptide Y-immunoreactive neurons in the suprachiasmatic nucleus of laboratory rats"
- B-2 **F. D'Olimpio, S. Conte, P. Renzi**
"Biological rhythms in avoidance behavior: ultradian components in DBA mice"
- B-3 **Christian Heintzen, Klaus Apel and Dorothee Staiger**
"Clock-controlled transcripts in *Sinapis alba*"
- B-4 **Thomas S. Kilduff**
"Nicotine differentially affects gene expression in the fetal and maternal suprachiasmatic nuclei"
- B-5 **R. Leproult, U. Hirschfeld, R. Moreno-Reyes, M. L'Hermite-Baleriaux, E. Van Cauter and G. Copinschi**
"Progressive elevation of plasma TSH during adaptation to simulated jet lag: effects of treatment with bright light or zolpidem"
- B-6 **Luis Lopez-Molina**
"Generation of DBP knock-out mice"
- B-7 **Mirian David Marques**
"The origin of circadian rhythmicity revisited"
- B-8 **Elizabeth S. Maywood, E.L. Bittman, F.J.P. Ebling, M.H. Hastings**
"Regional distribution of iodomelatonin-binding sites within the suprachiasmatic nucleus of the Syrian and Siberian hamster and the rat"
- B-9 **C. Mazzucchelli, S. Capsoni, D. Angeloni, F. Fraschini and B. Stankov**
"Expression of the melatonin receptor in *Xenopus laevis*"
- B-10 **Peter Meerlo**
"Does the circadian system play a role in stress-induced changes in activity and body temperature rhythm in rats?"

- B-11 **Peter Meerlo**
"Effects of social stress on sleep EEG and sleep-wake rhythm in rats"
- B-12 **Elizabeth L. Meyer and LP Morin**
"The effects of serotonin depletion on triazolam and novel wheel induced phase shifts"
- B-13 **Jens D. Mikkelsen**
"Light induces expression of the CREM isoform ICERmRNA in the suprachiasmatic nucleus of the rat"
- B-14 **Maria Mittag, J. Woodland Hastings and Wolfhart Rediger**
"Differential translational initiation of Lbp mRNA"
- B-15 **Gilad Ofek, Jeppe Sturis and Eve Van Cauter**
"Effects of light and dark on the human circadian system: predictions from the Kronauer model"
- B-16 **Beatriz Fuentes Pardo**
"Ontogeny of the motor circadian rhythm and its relation to ERG circadian rhythm in crayfish"
- B-17 **Barbara L. Parry, Sarah L. Berga, Nasim Mostofi, Anna Resnick**
"Light therapy effects on melatonin circadian rhythms in premenstrual dysphoric disorder and normal control subjects"
- B-18 **Hugh D. Piggins**
"Neuropeptides phase-shift the mammalian circadian pacemaker"
- B-19 **Hermann Pohl**
"Exogenous melatonin accelerates re-entrainment: Attenuation of the circadian oscillator controlling metabolic rate"
- B-20 **Elzbieta M. Pyza**
"The regulation of rhythmic size changes amongst cells in the lamina of the fly's optic lobe: involvement of neurotransmitters"
- B-21 **Michael A. Rea**
"Serotonergic modulation of photic phase hamster"
- B-22 **Uwe Redlin and G. Robert Lynch**
"An *in vitro* sensitivity window to physiological saline in the suprachiasmatic nucleus of the Djungarian hamster"
- B-23 **Uwe Redlin and G. Robert Lynch**
"Djungarian hamster reentrainment to a 6 h phase advance: effects of melatonin"

- B-24 **Jennifer R. Redman, Andrew P.J. Francis, Caroline M. Walmsley**
"Entrainment of rat activity rhythms by the serotonergic agonist, 8-OH-DPAT"
- B-25 **Jalees Rehman**
"Nitrate metabolism and the circadian timing system of *Gonyaulax polyedra*"
- B-26 **Sara J. Shettleworth, R.R. Hampton and R.P. Westwood**
"Photoperiod and food-storing in black-capped chickadees (*Parus atricapillus*)"
- B-27 **Debra J. Skene, S.W. Lockely, H. Tabandeh, A.C. Bird, R. Defrance, and J. Arendt**
"Activity, sleep and melatonin rhythms in visually impaired subjects"
- B-28 **Judith Anne Stirland, Y.N. Mohammad, A.S.I. Loudon**
"Testicular responses to photoperiod are altered by the tau mutation of the Syrian hamster"
- B-29 **Arjen M. Strijkstra**
"Sleep during arousals from hibernation: The effect of ambient temperature during prior torpor"
- B-30 **Arjen M. Strijkstra**
"Sleep during arousals from hibernation: The effect of prior torpor duration"
- B-31 **Arjen M. Strijkstra, Ina Everts, Eva Millei**
"The annual cycle of the Suslik: Body mass changes and some implications for reproduction"
- B-32 **Alena Sumova, Z. Travnickova, H. Illnerova**
"Adjustment of the nocturnal gate for light-induced c-Fos expression to a change in the photoperiod"
- B-33 **Gianluca Tosini and Michael Menaker**
"The role of pineal complex in the expression of circadian body temperature and locomotor activity rhythms in *Iguana iguana*"
- B-34 **Lorenz Trachsel, K. Kampe, H.U. Dodt, and W. Zieglegaensberger**
"Noise Analysis of Voltage Clamped Neurons in Suprachiasmatic Nuclei Slices"
- B-35 **Jolande A. Treep and Benjamin Rusak**
"An anatomically and functionally distinct retinal projection to the dorsolateral suprachiasmatic nucleus"
- B-36 **Olivier A van Reeth, E. Olivorer, F. Turek, R. Defrance and E. Moiser**
"Chronic treatment with a melatonin agonist, S-20098, has restorative effects on the activity rhythm in old hamsters"

- B-37 **David Whitmore, Gene Block and Richard Day**
"A role for CCAAT-enhancer binding protein (cEBP) in phase shifts of the Aplysia retinal circadian pacemaker?"
- B-38 **Franziska Wollnik, F. Gillardon, R. Bravo, M. Zimmermann, W. Brysch, K.H. Schlingensiepen and T. Herdegen**
"c-Fos and junB antisense-oligonucleotides block both phase advances and phase delays of the mammalian circadian system"
- B-39 **Michael Zeman, D. Lamosova, E. Gwinner**
"Ontogeny of rhythmic melatonin production in chick embryo"

To be assigned:

B-40

B-41

B-42

B-43

B-44

B-45

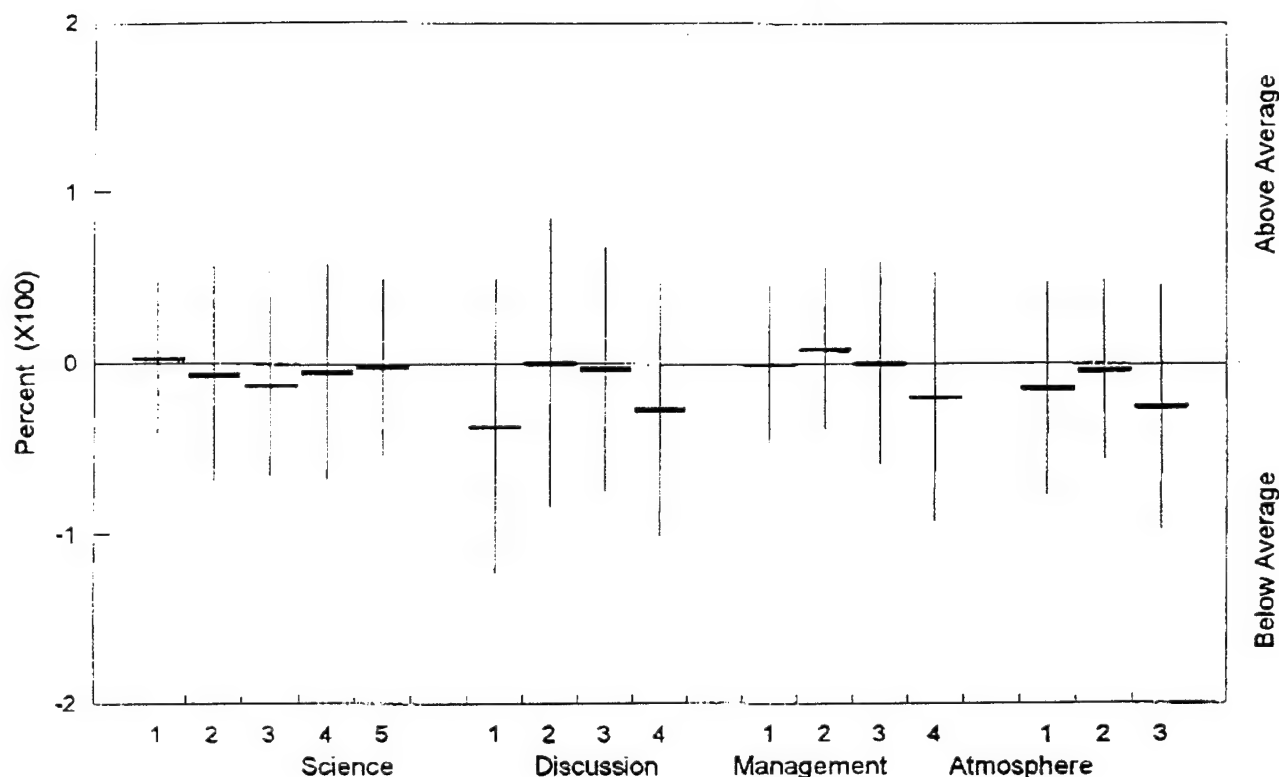
B-46

B-47

B-48

D

Chronobiology



SCIENCE: Score (Max 30): **20.94**

1. Presentations were at the "Frontiers of Science"
2. Presentations defined and analyzed the most important problems and opportunities
3. Presentations were clearly made.
4. Presentations were consistent with the stated goals and objectives of the conference
5. Speakers were readily accessible before and after their presentations.

DISCUSSION: Score (Max 30): **13.55**

1. Adequate time for formal discussion was provided.
2. Discussion leaders stimulated the discussions, not simply managed them.
3. Discussions evoked and explored new research directions.
4. Discussions involved a fully representative group and were not dominated by a few individuals.

MANAGEMENT: Score (Max 20): **14.02**

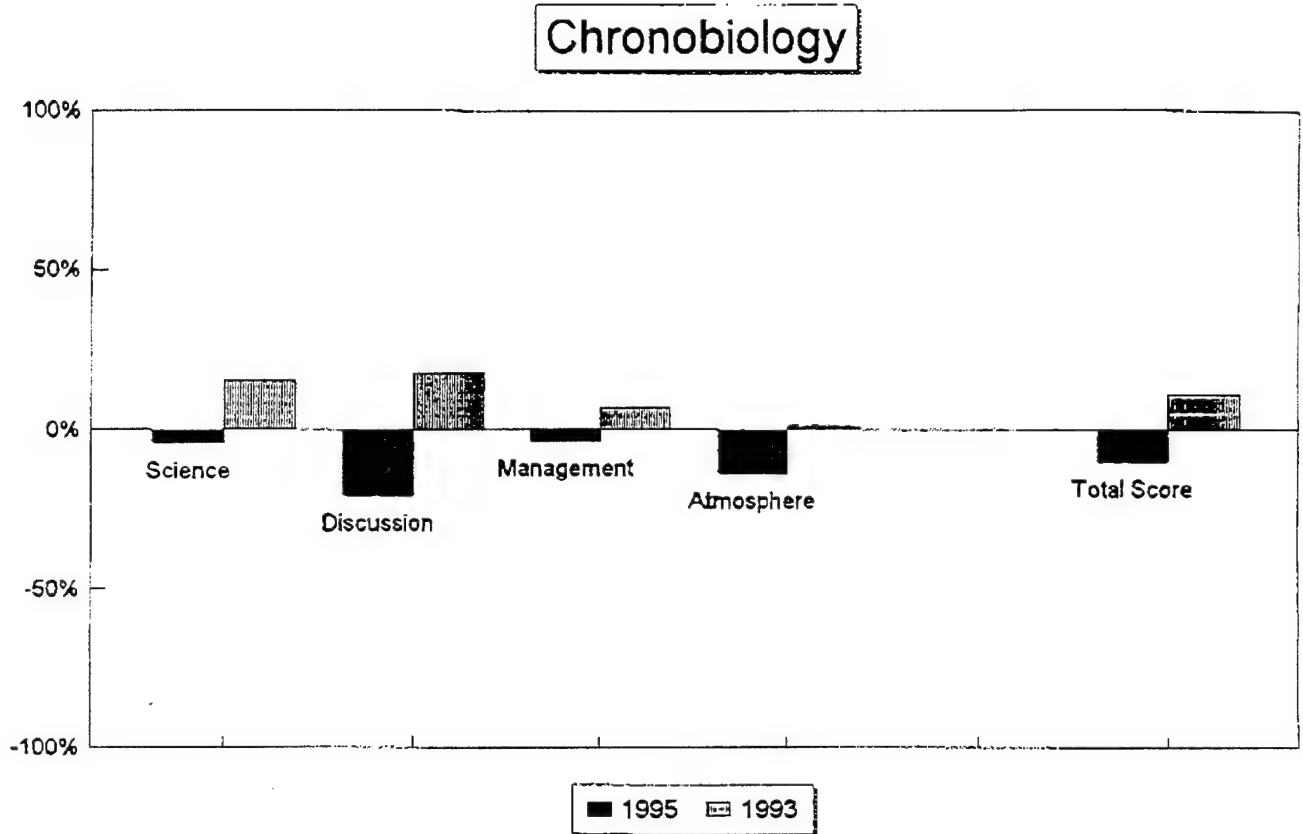
1. Objectives, themes and goals were timely
2. Objectives, themes and goals were clearly communicated to conferees.
3. Objectives, themes and goals were realized to the maximum extent possible
4. Conference business was conducted in an open and democratic fashion (i.e. fair elections, discussions were open to all, avoidance of predominating groups or cliques).

ATMOSPHERE: Score (Max 20): **13.46**

1. The conference was more than just a meeting, workshop, or a collection of lectures
2. An atmosphere for easy exchange of information was established.
3. A REPRESENTATIVE balance of conferees from academia, industry, government, and from the U.S. and other countries was achieved.

Number Applied: **179**
 Number Attended: **144**

Total Score (Max 100): **61.97**
 Number of Responses: **65**



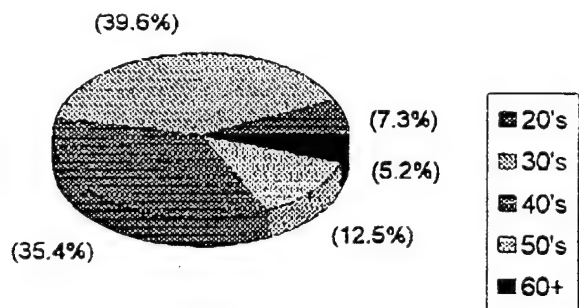
CONFERENCE SCORES:
Chronobiology

Conference Scores:	1995	1993	<i>1991</i> Average Conference Scores	
Science:	20.94	25.40	<i>24.13</i>	21.93
Discussion:	13.55	20.11	<i>13.85</i>	17.09
Management:	14.02	15.62	<i>14.56</i>	14.56
Atmosphere:	13.46	15.79	<i>14.40</i>	15.61
Total Score:	61.97	76.92	<i>67.62</i>	69.19

Chronobiology

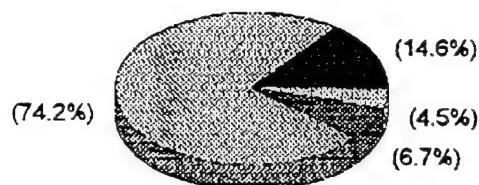
Conference Profile Sheet

Age Distribution



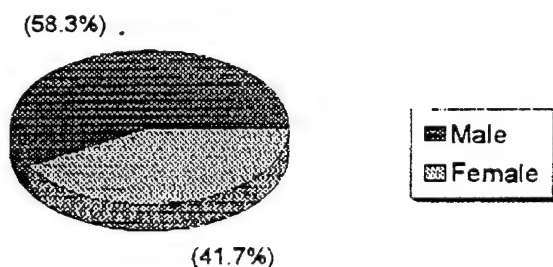
Average Age
46

Employer/Occupation

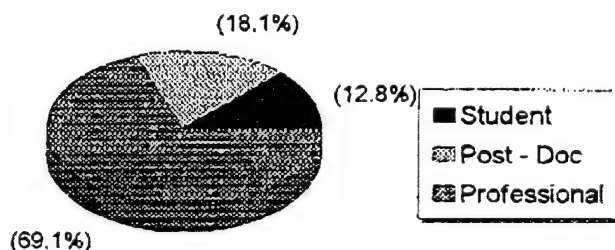


Acad. (BS/MS) Acad. (PhD)
Government Private Enterprise

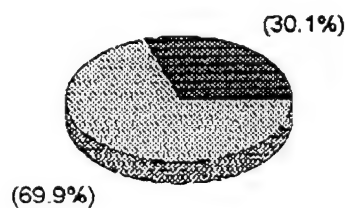
Gender



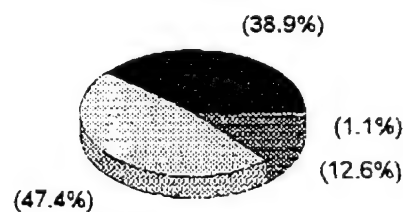
Professional Status



Country Represented



GRC's Previously Attended



U. S. Non - U. S.

None 1-5 5-10 10+

D

1995 Gordon Research Conferences
Conferee Comments
Chronobiology - Il Ciocco, Barga, Italy - April 30 - May 5

Science:

1. Not enough predictions/interpretations/discussion of data. Too much of just presenting data.
2. Excellent scientific offerings.
3. Scientific balance quite good. The content in each session could be better integrated. Need some time for a recreation opportunity, e.g., a short tour one afternoon.
4. More basic discussion about concepts is needed.
5. There was not enough emphasis on the relationship between chronobiology and life (quality, duration, resistance to diseases, etc.). Medical implications were not discussed (endocrine, cancer, heart) and, in my opinion, should be addressed in future conferences.
6. On the whole, presentations were good, with some glaring exceptions for whom the chair must accept responsibility.
7. I assume that speakers must be leaders in the field. When either graduate students or post-doctoral fellows are the speakers, it is sometimes evident that they don't have enough experience.
8. The length of the talk should be shorter than 30 minutes and allow equal time for discussion.
9. Botany was under-represented.
10. Animal systems were over-represented. Plant work was poorly represented. Molecular approaches dominated even though these do not appear to contribute to the advancement of the field in proportion to their dominance.
11. Presentations were too long. I expected more short presentations of really unpublished data (on the other hand, some presentations were really excellent).
12. This conference was well organized and the speakers and presentations were excellent.
13. Rather little on photoperiodism, and almost nothing on plant systems.
14. I would like more plant chronobiology presentations.

Discussion:

15. I missed time for discussion in small groups which was available in other conferences. Even the amount of time to see the posters was short.
16. Excellent conference but it was a bit too crowded for informal exchanges and discussion.
17. Too intensive. Not enough time for discussion.

18. Shorter lectures, more discussion.
19. Good meeting. More discussion of papers would be beneficial. More attempts to develop strategic research directions that emphasize collaboration and co-operation.
20. Shorter presentations, more discussions.

Management:

21. Again, a tour-de-force job by the chair.
22. Excellent - the chair has done a wonderful job with the conference.
23. The last session should end in the evening rather than mid-day so the last session doesn't get short shrift and there are people around for at least some time after the last session.
24. This is the best conference format. I wish I could come back every year.
25. European contributions were excellent and needed. It was a nice change. The rhythms field is still dominated and controlled by a small group or clique. Nomination committees should be larger. Nominations from the floor should be encouraged, to make the process more democratic. As it is, business meetings at the conference are usually rushed through. The insertion of extra speakers into the program at the last moment creates an overload. It should be discouraged except in very exceptional circumstances. Some speakers went on for too long, allowing too little discussion time. Extra speakers exacerbated the problem. The chair did an excellent job, excellent program.
26. I liked the idea of having dinner after the evening talks.
27. The Friday morning session was poor because conferees began leaving before the session.

Atmosphere:

28. In order to stimulate international collaboration, which is very important in science, I would like to see much less emphasis on U.S.-oriented questions, universities, and speakers.
29. Fine.
30. Superb. I learned a great deal and discussed future projects.

37. Many conferees arrived to find they had no room available. This is inexcusable.
38. There were unacceptable problems with the slide projector. There was no blackboard. I definitely find that two meals that each take about 1 1/2 hours far too time consuming. I would prefer it if at least one meal was a buffet style event.
39. The atmosphere was quite different from previous G.R.C.s due to two conferences being held at the same location. We waste time for lunch and dinner and therefore lack time for discussion and lack space due to the great number of people at the site at the same time.
40. The lengthy meals and format with lectures before dinner make the afternoon break too short to do anything. We need a real break. The New England format is superior.
41. The projector problems were a major distraction. Too many people are in the dining room at one time - it makes it too noisy and slows service. Need improved organization of transportation to and from the site.
42. This is a lovely site but the lack of transportation was very disappointing. I would not favor a return to this site unless much was done to improve access to the facilities.

Appendix E: Excerpts from letters received by the Chair:

May I once again congratulate you on creating a creative mix of people, without a sense of bias and favoritism, new faces, good vibes, the ideal that we innocent scientists wish for.

I had a great time !

I thought it went extremely well, the setting was good ...

I think the meeting was very successful and I was very happy to have had the opportunity to participate

Well, everyone I have spoken to about the meeting at Il Ciocco seems to have had the same response. I think we all enjoyed ourselves, but also felt the quality of the meeting was really excellent I can't remember having had a better meeting in the past.

I have greatly enjoyed the meeting, the scientific atmosphere and the beautiful location.

I much enjoyed the Gordon meeting ... as well as the quality of the talks in general.

Thank you most sincerely for a splendid Gordon meeting

I enjoyed very much my stay during this meeting

I really enjoyed the conference and am pleased to have been part of the program

I found the discussions enlightening and inspiring, exceeded only by the delight of making new friends

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